P29986.A01

REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior

to examination of the above-identified patent application.

The amendment herein is made to place the claims of the Application in better

form and to ensure that the features recited therein are not interpreted as means-plus-

function or steps-of limitations.

The amendments to the claims made in this amendment have not been made to

overcome the prior art, and thus, should be considered to have been made for a

purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The present amendment also revises the Abstract to delete reference to element

numbers therein and to improve the form thereof.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted, Shuichi HIRATA et al.

iuichi HIRATA et al. Joshua M. Povsner

Reg. #42,086

Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027

September 8, 2006 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191

(703) 716-1191

{P29986 00045909.DOC 2}